GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3921
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2017
Agricultural Labourers engaged under MGNREGS
Kaswan Shri Rahul

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of agricultural labourers for agriculture work in the field is due to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) under which they get work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the MGNREGS for ensuring the availability of adequate labourers for agriculture work and to provide 100 days of employment to them in such a way that it does not affect farming adversely; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) to (d): Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is a demand driven wage employment programme. MGNREGA provides livelihood security i.e., a fall back option for livelihood for the rural people when no better employment opportunity is available. The Act guarantees 100 days of work to rural household in a financial year. Additional 50 days are provided in drought notified areas. Members of the household are free to avail wage opportunity under MGNREGS or other available employment opportunities. Provision has been made that at least 60% of the works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost under MGNREGA shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water and trees. During the last FY 2016-17, around 65.22% of works in terms of cost were related to Agriculture and Allied activities in the country.

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